

Nashville Union.

For Freedom and Nationality.

S. C. MERCER, Editor.

TO OUR READERS.

The morning the Union is presented to its readers diminished somewhat in size. The fault is not ours, nor is it in our power to control it at present. The paper maker on whom we depend, informs us that it will be necessary for him to get several articles essential to the manufacture of paper, before he can supply us again with the proper size. He has enough of the size we print on this morning, to last us until the other can be furnished. We assure our patrons that it is contrary to the wishes of the Publishers of the Union to take any step that will detract from its merits. As soon as we can be supplied with the paper, we will resume our regular size. Notwithstanding the reduction of the paper from its former size, there will be no diminution in the amount of reading matter from what has heretofore been given.

September 11, 1862.

A PROCLAMATION.

By the President of the United States.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22, 1862.

Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, and Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy thereof, do hereby proclaim and declare, that hereafter, as heretofore, the war will be prosecuted for the object of practically restoring the constitutional relations between the United States and the people thereof in which States that relation is or may be suspended or disturbed; that it is my purpose upon the next meeting of Congress to again recommend the adoption of a practical measure tendering pecuniary aid to the free acceptance or rejection of all the slave States, so called, the people whereof may not then be in rebellion against the United States and which States may then have voluntarily adopted, or thereafter may voluntarily adopt, an immediate or gradual abolition of slavery within their respective limits; and that the efforts to colonize persons of African descent, with their consent, upon the continent, or elsewhere, with the previously obtained consent of the Government existing there, will be continued. I had on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within my State, or within any designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free, and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereto, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom; that the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States, and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States, the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be in good faith represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such States shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong corroborative testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State and the people thereof have not been in rebellion against the United States.

Attention is hereby called to an act of Congress, entitled an act to make an additional Article of War, approved March 23, 1862, and which act is in the words and figures following:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, That hereafter the following shall be promulgated as an additional Article of War for the government of the Army of the United States, and shall be obeyed and observed as such:

Article: All officers or persons in the military or naval service of the United States, are prohibited from employing any of the forces under their respective commands for the purpose of returning fugitives from service or labor, who may have escaped from any person to whom such service or labor is claimed to be due, and any officer who shall be found guilty by a court martial, of violating this article shall be dismissed from the service.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That this act shall take effect from and after its passage."

Also to the 9th and 10th sections of an act entitled "an act to suppress insurrection, to punish treason and rebellion,

to seize and confiscate property of rebels, and for other purposes, approved July 17th, 1862," and which sections are in the words and figures following:

"SECUND 9. And be it further enacted, That all the slaves of persons who shall hereafter be engaged in rebellion against the Government of the United States, or who shall in any way give aid or comfort thereto, escaping from such persons, and taking refuge within the limits of the army, and all slaves captured from such persons, or deserted by them and coming under the control of the Government of the United States, and all slaves of such persons on or being within any place occupied by rebel forces, and afterwards occupied by the forces of the United States, shall be deemed captures of war, and shall be forever free of their servitude and not again held as slaves.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That no slave escaping into any slave territory or the District of Columbia, from any of the States shall be delivered up, or in any way impeded or hindered of his liberty, except for crime or some offense against the laws, unless the person claiming said fugitive shall first make oath that the person to whom the labor or service of said fugitive is alleged to be due, is his lawful owner, and has not been in arms against the United States in the present rebellion, nor in any way given aid or comfort thereto; and no person engaged in the military or naval service of the United States shall, under any pretense whatever, assume to decide on the validity of the claims of any person to the service or labor of any other person or surrender up any such person to the claimant, on pain of being dismissed from the service.

September 11, 1862.

W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

REPRODUCED FROM THE UNION.

REPRODUCED FROM THE UNION.